



Dear

Gloucestershire Constabulary Freedom of Information request 2023.0146

On 31/01/2023 you sent an email constituting a request under the Freedom of Information Act asking the following:

- 1) In the calendar years a) 2018, b) 2019, c) 2020, d) 2021 and e) 2022, please tell me how many times your police force recorded the crime categorised by the Home Office counting rules as 97/01 "causing, permitting or failing to prevent unnecessary suffering of protected animal" where the protected animal in question was a) a swan, b) a goose or c) a duck. Please provide a breakdown of the total by year and by type of bird.
- 2) For the 15 most recently recorded crimes captured by question 1's search, please provide me with a verbatim copy of the "investigation summary field" and/or the modus operandi (MO). In addition, please state where each of the 15 crimes occurred. I understand some information may need to be redacted to prevent personal or otherwise sensitive details being divulged.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 s1, I can confirm that Gloucestershire Constabulary holds some relevant information.

Police Forces in the United Kingdom are routinely required to provide statistics to government bodies and the recording criteria is set nationally. However, the systems used for recording these figures are not generic, nor are the procedures used locally in capturing the data. It should be noted that for these reasons the figures given relate to information from the specific recording system of Gloucestershire Constabulary and should not be used for comparison purposes with any other response you receive.

Please note that our systems are designed to record information for policing purposes and the investigation of crime and not to extract statistical information. Accordingly whilst we endeavour to extract relevant data within the time limits of the Act, any data supplied is subject to these limitations.

A search of the Crime Recording System has been conducted to identify substantiated crimes recorded between 01/0/2018 and 31/12/2022 where the offence of "Causing, permitting or failing to prevent unnecessary suffering of protected animal" has been recorded. A filter has then been applied to identify records where the protected animal is a:

- swan
- goose
- duck

This has returned 2 results. The details are listed below:

Year	MO text	Local Policing Area
2022	SUSPECTS HAVE BEEN FISHING IN THE PARK LAKE AND HAVE CAUSED INJURY TO THE SWANS.	Cheltenham
2022	TWO BOYS HAVE BEEN THROWING THEIR SCOOTERS INTO THE LAKES AIMING AT THE SWANS, ONE OF THE BOYS HAS THEN KICKED A SWAN IN THE HEAD AND SPAT ON IT	Cheltenham

If you are not satisfied with this response or any actions taken in dealing with your request, you have the right to ask that we review your case under our internal procedure. Please note that a request for an internal review must be made within 20 working days of the response to your original request.

If you decide to request that such a review is undertaken and following this process you are still unsatisfied, you then have the right to direct your complaint to the Information Commissioner for consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Disclosure Officer
Gloucestershire Constabulary